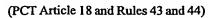
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONALSEARCHREPORT





| Applicant's or agent's file reference CFO17899WO | FOR FURTHER ACTION | as well | see Form PCT/ISA/220 as, where applicable, item 5 below. | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------|---|--|--|--|
| International application No. PCT/JP 2004 / 001423 | International filing date (day/mo | | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 14.02.2003 | | | |
| Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA | | | | | | |
| This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau. | | | | | | |
| This international search report consists of a total of sheets. | | | | | | |
| It is also accompanied by a | copy of each prior art document | cited in this r | eport. | | | |
| Basis of the report a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. | | | | | | |
| the international sear this Authority (Rule | • | a translation | of the international application furnished to | | | |
| | | disclosed in | the international application, see Box No. I. | | | |
| 2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II). | | | | | | |
| 3. Unity of invention is lacking (See Box III). | | | | | | |
| 4. With regard to the title, | | | | | | |
| the text is approved as sub | mitted by the applicant, | | | | | |
| the text has been established | ed by this Authority to read as fo | llows: | | | | |
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| | | | | | | |
| 5. With regard to the abstract, | | | | | | |
| the text is approved as submitted by the applicant. | | | | | | |
| the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority. | | | | | | |
| 6. With regard to the drawings, | | | | | | |
| a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No3 | | | | | | |
| as suggested by the applicant. as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure. as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention. b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract. | | | | | | |

INTERNATIONALSEARCHREPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/001423

| Δ | CLASSIFICATIONOFSUBJECTMATTER |
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| Λ. | CEASSILICATION OF SUBJECT MATERIA |

Int.Cl, H01L27/146,G01T1/24,H04N5/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ H01L27/14-27/146, H01L29/786, G01T1/24, H04N5/32

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Japanese Utility Model Gazette 1922-1996, Japanese Publication of Unexamined Utility Model Applications 1971-2004, Japanese Registered Utility Model Gazette 1994-2004, Japanese Gazette Containing the Utility Model 1996-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|------------------------------------|
| X | JP 2002-26300 A(SHARP CORPORATION) 2002.01.25, a whole document, figure 1-3, (Family:none) | 1,7,13,19,20 2-6,8-12,14- 18 |
| Y | JP 2000-12866 A(TOSHIBA CORPORATION) 2000.01.14,a whole document, figure 1-18, (Family:none) | 1-20 |
| Y | JP 63-172470 A(FUJITSU LIMITED)1988.07.16, a whole document, figure 1-4, (Family:none) | 17,18 |
| A | US 2002/0056810 A1(Isao KOBAYASHI)2002.05.16, a whole document, figure 1-22, & JP 11-307756 A & US 2003/0020020 A1 | 1-20 |
| A | US 2001/0038075 A1(Masakazu MORISHITA) 2001.11.08,a whole document, figure 1-15, & JP 2001-345440 A | 1-20 |

| J | & OF 2001-343410 11 | |
|--|---|--|
| | Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. | See patent family annex. |
| "E" | Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier application or patent but published on or after the inter- national filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed | "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| Date | of the actual completion of the international search | Date of mailing of the international search report |
| | 10.05.2004 | 25. 5. 2004 |
| Nam | e and mailing address of the ISA/JP Japan Patent Office | Authorized officer KYOICHI SAITO 4L 8122 |
| 3-4-3, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915, Japan | | Telephone No. +81-3-3581-1101 Ext. 3498 |